

VIEWPOINT
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY
HARRISONBURG VA
23 November 1983

No beady-eyed men at JMU

To the editor:

In reference to the article, "CIA: More than just a job...", the author is not only misinformed about G. Gordon Liddy, but knows very little about the CIA.

First of all, Liddy worked for FBI, not the CIA. Where do you get your information, Tim? Liddy is an exception rather than the rule and using him as a typical representative of the people who work for the CIA is unjustifiable. It's like calling all Vietnam veterans "baby killers."

Regarding the Bay of Pigs, the CIA, like other intelligence agencies, undergoes risky covert operations such as this. The shame of it all is the American public never hears about operations that are successful.

There are many accomplishments of the CIA that go unnoticed. It gave the first accurate prediction of China's advancing

nuclear ability. It warned Johnson and Nixon the Vietnam War was unwinnable, and according to the latest issue of "The New Republic," the CIA had some information that a Syrian-protected religious group was possibly planning to bomb a Marines' installation.

This disaster and the Iranian hostage crisis could possibly have been avoided if the CIA had agents planted in these groups. Unfortunately, they didn't, probably due to a declining lack of resources in human intelligence.

Finally, I haven't seen any beady-eyed men in trench coats on campus, and I see no reason why an organization so vital to U.S. security can't be allowed to recruit at Madison.

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